

LONG ISLAND FORUM



Shinnecock Canal in 1887, Showing Newly Constructed Railroad Bridge (Story Page 167)

TABLE of CONTENTS

HE KNEW PECONIC MILL
A NASSAU COUNTY LANDMARK
SHINNECOCK CANAL OF 1886
SOME CENTURY OLD LETTERS
PATCHOGUE IN 1812
ANOTHER ATTIC TREASURE
GRANDPA DID SOME BEACHCOMING

Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood
Robert R. Coles
John H. Sutter
Kate Wheeler Strong
Mrs. Harry C. Hetzel
Wilbur F. Howell
Eva Gordon Slaterbeck

LETTERS FROM FORUM READERS

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 FORUM**

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Woodhull Park, L. I.

In connection with John Tooker's fine story on General Woodhull in the July Forum, it reminds me that there was a station named Woodhull Park on the LIRR in the 1890's. It was the terminal of the "rapid transits" (later known as the local electric trains) from Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn. In those days the rapid transits were diminutive steam trains consisting of one or two small cars with a tiny locomotive.

Woodhull Park station was on or very near the site of the present-day Hillside station (earlier known as Rockaway Junction). It should not be confused with the first station in the area, known as Willow Tree, which was three or four blocks farther east.

Felix E. Reifschneider
 Orlando, Florida

Tallmadge Sisterless

In the July Forum Mr. Clarence Comes writes "Mary Tallmadge, sister of Major Benjamin Tallmadge . . . married David Osborn of New Haven." Major Tallmadge had no sisters: see his Memoir, N. Y. 1904.

Several Marias appear in the Tallmadge line: a daughter; his second wife, nee Maria Hallett; and a daughter-in-law, nee Maria C. Adams.

Major Tallmadge had four brothers, and at his death left five sons and two daughters. One of his sons was Benjamin Jr. who became sailing master of the U.S.S. Constitution.

Mr. Comes might look into their family lines for the Mary he mentions.

Chester G. Osborne
 Center Moriches

Miss Strong Is Brief

Miss Kate Wheeler Strong has the rare ability to say much in a few words. "An Old Slave's Fiddle" in the May issue again proved it. (Mrs.) Florence D. Lampe
 Levittown

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He Knew Peconic Mill

IN 1906 there was taken down "on salvage shares" for its then owner Lewis H. Case to make room for a cottage development the remnant of a picturesque landmark which had stood many years near the mouth of Goldsmith's Inlet in the town of Southold where the northerly end of Peconic Lane stops at the shore of Long Island Sound.

It was a welcome relief to this writer in the late 1880's from routine daily tasks on the Howell, now the Donahue, farm at the head of Tucker's lane and the North Road north of Southold village, to ride with "Uncle" Eli Howell in the "schooner" wagon to the Peconic gristmill with wheat, corn and oats to be ground into flour, light and dark canaille, and meal for the kitchen, and bran and feed for the barn.

About 1760 Amon Taber, the millwright of Orient (then called Oysterponds), who in 1803 built the present edifice of the Southold Presbyterian Church, erected the first tide-water-mill at the Inlet.

The mill however failed to work satisfactorily. The natural channel did not supply a sufficient stream of water to operate the undershot wheel. The mill was hence built over into a horse-mill such as Jeremiah Goldsmith had at his farm home at the corner of the Lane and the North Road.

The horse-mill fell into disuse after the Revolution as the money crop was then flax. As the farmers began again to raise wheat and corn there also again arose the need for a local mill. It was too long a drive to the tide-water-mill at Mattituck and also to the similar one at Tom's Creek at Ashamomoque where for a hundred years past the South Road which connects Southold and Greenport has crossed the creek over a bridge.

Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood

Editor's Note

This second story on the Peconic mill, by one who knew it as a boy and saw it run and knew the miller, brings many additional facts to light. The author also gives further data on the mill's background. Dr. Wood, our senior contributing editor, certainly has a fund of knowledge on all phases of Southold Town history.

Joseph Hull Goldsmith, son of Zachariah, a lawyer, had in 1833 returned after a nine years absence in New York City with his wife to spend the remainder of their lives in the town of their birth. He was an ardent Spiritualist and member of the Southold Universalist Church. He promoted the extension of the railroad to the East End and later the establishment of the Southold Savings Bank, also of the Suffolk County Mutual Insurance Company. He had wanted the terminal of the railroad at Goldsmith's Inlet.

About 1839 he and Benjamin H. Palmer and others sponsored the building of another tide-water-mill at the

Inlet. They met with many discouragements but were finally successful. The money for its construction was raised among the neighbors who felt the need for a mill in the vicinity.

The Shareholders and others carted in their farm wagons the rocks for the construction of walls to narrow, restrict and control the water in the channel of the waterway.

It may be well to preserve here a copy of a document dated a century ago addressed to property owners along the lane leading to the mill by the roadmaster of the time. It read: "Cutchogue, Dec. 4th, 1852. Sir. There has been several complaints in relation to the Trees and bushes Standing in the road usually called the Mill road running from the Main road to the Inlet Mill.

"You will please clear that road without Delay of the Trees and Bushes so that Waggons can pass each other without any inconvenience. Yours, S. E. Horton."

"Uncle" John Conklin Appleby, grandfather of John Ellsworth Appleby, a "prince



SWEZEY GRISTMILL, SWAN CREEK, PATCHOGUE

Sketched and etched by Jos. P. DiGemma

among millers" who had ground grits at the tide-water-mill at the mouth of Tom's or Mill Creek at Ashamomoque to the satisfaction of everybody, was induced to conduct the Peconic Mill three days each week and devote the other three weekdays to the Ashamomoque mill.

In those days there was not enough business to keep the miller busy all the while at either mill. The mill at Tom's Creek, it is said, may have ground a "leetle better" because of its "steady gait."

In these tide-water-mills the rising tide swept into the rock-walled channel through the open gates. As the tide-water retreated the gates would close, storing the water in the creek for use when it flowed out, turning the big water wheel.

When Appleby retired from the mill his place was taken by Richard Cox who had come east from Oyster Bay in 1821 to erect and conduct the tide-water wheel at Mattituck Creek a few miles to the west of the Peconic mill.

Cox in turn gave way to Gabriel Bennett, a miller from East Hampton who had run the Red Mill on Pine Neck, Southold, until it was removed about 1840 to Shelter Island. Later one Smith, an Englishman, bought out the other shareholders of the Peconic Mill. After operating it a few years he sold out to Cox and his son John Cox. Their mill at Mattituck took so much of their time in 1872 that the Coxes sold their holdings there to Capt. Joshua U. Terry who, after retiring from his seafaring life in 1847, conducted the Mattituck mill for over twenty years.

The next miller at the Peconic mill after Cox and his son was Edward H. Terry who conducted it until the growing infirmities of age compelled his retirement. He was succeeded by his brother Gilbert Terry who as the last miller there ran the Peconic mill for thirty-four years. He

Continued on page 172

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A Nassau County Landmark

AMONG the few remaining landmarks from the earliest days of Mosquito Cove is the homestead built in 1668 by Robert Coles, one of the original settlers of the region and a direct ancestor of the writer. This stands today on the north side of the street called "The Place" and to the west of the large brick building occupied by the Griscom Publications, within the City of Glen Cove. A high board fence and heavy foliage partially hide it from view of passers-by.

While the old dwelling has undergone much renovation and extensive additions during the past two hundred eighty-six years, anyone familiar with the architecture of this locality during the latter part of the seventeenth century can easily recognize the small wing to the right that was the original house. Today this is overshadowed by two large additions of later construction and different style. By mentally erasing these, however, and concentrating on the small east wing, one can get a fair idea of how the original homestead appeared.

Many years ago there was an old well in the front yard and, until 1945, a large weather-beaten black locust grew about fifteen feet to the southwest of the original dwelling. This was said to have been one of a number of young locusts that were brought from Virginia during the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century by Captain John Sands of Cow Neck, (now Sands Point). Others were planted elsewhere on the north shore of Long Island at the same time and these are claimed to have been the first of this species of locust on the island. Today they are very plentiful on the north shore and elsewhere.

The construction of this

Robert R. Coles

house was apparently much like that of the one built by Joseph Carpenter at about the same time. Carpenter was the leader of the small group that settled Mosquito Cove and built his home on the west side of the road now called Dickson Lane. Comparison of the east wing of the present structure with a sketch made of the old Carpenter home, in 1835, shows a striking resemblance. In both, the front door is centrally positioned and divided so that the upper and lower halves may be opened independently. Moderately large windows made up of several panes of glass are placed on either side of the door. In the old Coles homestead there are small windows directly over these with the sill nearly at the second floor level and the top beneath the edge of the sloping roof. The sketch of the Carpenter home does not show these upstairs windows. A large chimney is built into

the east side of the Coles dwelling, which accommodates a fireplace that was used for cooking and heating purposes during the colder months.

Unfortunately the old Carpenter homestead was destroyed, probably over a century ago, and all that remains is a depression in the ground where it stood. This is now overgrown with briars and several large locust trees. Over thirty years ago the writer retrieved two or three old bricks from the excavation that may have been part of the foundation or chimney before the building was demolished.

Robert Coles died on April 16, 1715, and was buried on a knoll almost directly across The Place from his home. His grave and about half a dozen others nearby were marked with crude field stones and in time the old cemetery became overgrown with weeds and briars. More than ten years ago I took a very good picture of his stone. It was of granite, and on it was



Gravestone of Ancestor, Preserved by Author

crudely carved the following inscription: "R C D S A P 16 1715 ". Also buried in the same cemetery was Robert Coles' wife, Mercy (Wright) Coles, who died on October 21, 1708.

This spring the property where the cemetery stood was leveled by bulldozers to make way for a parking field for the Columbia Ribbon and Carbon Company which came into possession of it some years ago. I removed Robert Coles' stone to my home and shall someday set it in the ground, in the hope that it may stay unmolested for another two hundred thirty-nine years.

Since the death of Robert and Mercy Coles the old homestead has been occupied by many families. For some generations it was the home of his children and grandchildren. During the latter part of the nineteenth century and early in the twentieth it was the home of Mr. George W. Cocks, one of Glen Cove's most respected genealogists and historians. He did a great deal of work in helping to get out the first volume of the Oyster Bay Town Records and prepared an historical sketch on the Town that is included in that volume. Also, in collaboration with John Cox, Jr., he compiled the "Cock, Cocks, Cox Genealogy" which is filled with interesting historical data concerning Glen Cove, Oyster Bay and the surrounding region.

Much that we know today concerning the early history of Mosquito Cove has come from the pages of a quaint, old parchment bound volume known as the Mosquito Cove Proprietors' Book." This measures 14½ x 9½ inches and is now in the possession of the writer. While never actually part of the Oyster Bay Town Records, most of the information from this volume is now included in Vol. I of that publication. It was begun by Robert Coles, in 1668, and contains many interesting entries, including land records, family records

of the Coles, Carpenter and Thornycraft families, two wills written by Robert Coles, one before and the other after the death of his wife, miscellaneous merchants' accounts and much other valuable data. It survives today as one of the few relics of the first days of Mosquito Cove.

Robert Coles was one of five men known as the "Proprietors of the Mosquito Cove Plantation". As previously mentioned, Joseph Carpenter, originally from Warwick, Rhode Island, was the leader of this little band of pioneers. The others were Daniel and Nathaniel Coles, older brothers of Robert, and Nicholas Simpkins.

Simpkins had lived at Oyster Bay, having apparently been on hand at the time of its settlement, in 1653. Also it seems that Nathaniel Coles lived there and never occupied his holdings at Mosquito Cove.

The three Coles brothers were sons of the first Robert Coles in America, who came from England on the Winthron Fleet, in 1630.

Some years previous to 1668 Joseph Carpenter had explored the region in the vicinity of Mosquito Cove in search for a favorable site on which to erect saw and grist mills. In the stream that ran through the valley at Mosquito Cove, emptying into Hempstead Harbor, he found exactly what he desired and soon began negotiations with the Matinecock Indians for its purchase.

After obtaining permission from Governor Nichols, he purchased the land from the Indians on May 24, 1668. Six months later, November 24, he received as equal shareholders Abia Carpenter, (his brother - in - law), Thomas Townsend, Nathaniel Coles and Robert Coles. Shortly afterward, however, Thomas Townsend transferred his interests to Nicholas Simpkins and Abia Carpenter transferred his to Daniel Coles.

According to mutual agree-

Continued on page 175

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Shinnecock Canal of 1886

HERE is some first-hand information about the Shinnecock Canal at Canoe Place, as most of it was told to me by the late Colonel (honorary) Ellsworth Howland, who worked on the canal when it was first made navigable by the State of New York in 1886.

The Colonel was given the honor of throwing the first shovel of sand into Captain Bill Phillips' wagon whose first load was dumped just north of where the Cruiser Club now has its headquarters.

Ever since the coming of the white men to Southampton town in 1640 there had been a narrow natural drain here flanked by a path where the Indians dragged or portaged their dugouts between Peconic and Shinnecock Bays. That is how Canoe Place got its name. Only during very high tides was there any flow of water through the drain.

When the State tackled the project of widening and deepening the old drain in 1886, it installed tidal gates just north of the Montauk highway. An engineer named Rumblecamp came down from Albany to superintendent the work and when he learned that Colonel Howland was a former railroader he got him to lay tracks to the dump and a small locomotive and gondola car were procured from the LIRR to move the sand. It took six years to complete the job.

An Albany man named Parrott was in charge of the dredge which was brought to Peconic bay by a tug. When warned that the craft lay in an exposed position in case an easterly storm should blow up, he remarked that "a little pond like the Peconic wouldn't hurt the outfit" which had encountered many a stiff gale on the Hudson. But shortly thereafter a real old-fashioned

John H. Sutter

easter set in. The tug was driven ashore and smashed to pieces and the dredge was sunk, but was later raised, pumped out and used.

The LIRR had a track gang housed in a caboose. These men were paid \$1.25 a day and had to pay 18 cents a day for board. Their principal meal was a loaf of Italian bread hollowed out and stuffed with garlic and other vegetables. They worked under the padrone system, the padrone having brought them over from Italy and hired them out in a body to the contractor. The padrone was paid for their services and gave the laborers what was left after deducting living costs and other expenses. The system has long since been banned in this country.

Colonel Howland was appointed watchman during building operations, receiving 1.35 a day. He was also retained after the railroad bridge was built across the canal and was instructed to see that freight trains must proceed over the span no faster than five miles an hour. Canoe Place Inn at that time was operated by one Charlie

Conklin who had come from Jamesport. It was during the building of the canal with its tidal gates, a vehicular bridge on Montauk highway and the railroad trestle further to the north that the gigantic bust of Hercules, which had been the figurehead of the U. S. frigate Ohio, was purchased by the inn-keeper and mounted across from the old hostelry on the highway which was then known as the Country Road.

Among those who worked on the canal project besides the gang of Italians were Shinnecock Indians who in 1703 had had their tribal reservation removed from just west of the canal site to the east. A number, however, still lived in Canoe Place and in Hampton Bays, among them descendants of the Indian missionary Paul Cuffee whose fenced-in grave may still be seen between the junction of the highway and the railroad, west of the canal.

Just how Ellsworth Howland acquired the title of Colonel I learned from him. It seems that it was bestowed upon him by one Joshua Conklin who had difficulty in

Continued on page 177



Shinnecock Canal in 1900. Photo by Hal B. Fullerton

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Birds in a Hurricane

"The Hurricane of 1938, — in Retrospect" by William T. Helmuth 3rd, describes the havoc played by that holocaust on the bird life of the east end. It is issued as the 8th pamphlet in the series entitled Birds of Long Island initiated in 1939 by The Bird Club of Long Island Inc.

For our copy we are indebted to Dr. John T. Nichols, who is editor, and is associated with the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Helmuth who resided in East Hampton took first hand notes on the effects of the hurricane on the wild birds in that vicinity and included in this interesting account a list of the 54 species of birds which were found dead from the storm.

Dr. Helmuth died while publication of the pamphlet was pending and Dr. Nichols was obliged to make the final revision and carry the work to completion. It is a valuable contribution to the island's ornithological data.

Malverne's Village Flag

The municipality of Malverne in Nassau County is the first in the State to adopt a village flag. We are indebted to Malverne Historian George R. Van Allen for one of the handsome silk emblems in blue, white and orange, colors symbolic of the Dutch West India Company which founded New Netherland of which Long Island was a part.

It carries the Malverne coat-of-arms, a shield topped by a spray of oakleaves and acorns with the inscription "Oaks from Acorns". Also included are a chipmunk, a dinky, an open clamshell, a Bible and quill pen, a baseball, liberty bell, an artist's palette with brushes, and two masks — all typifying the past, present and future of the village.

L. I. Articles Cited

In his list of "Outstanding Articles" published on historical subjects during the first quarter of 1954, James Taylor Dunn, Librarian of the State Historical Association,

Cooperstown, lists from the Long Island Forum "John Lecyard the Traveler" by Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood and "Big Manuel, Whaling Captain" by Andrus T. Valentine.

From the Journal of the Nassau County Historical Society Mr. Dunn lists: "The Story of Oyster Bay" by Paul Bailey, "Thomas Dongan and the Charter of Liberties" by Jesse Merritt, and "The Gardens of My Great-Grandmothers" by Julian Denton Smith.

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Some Century Old Letters

JUST a bundle of letters, yellow and brittle with age, but they carry us back into the past and show us the thoughts and doings of some of the people over 100 years ago. Such a bundle of letters has just been given me by my cousin Mr. Arthur T. Strong. Letters he had inherited from his father, my Uncle Charles. Now to the letters.

From Hempstead June 21st 1838, came a letter to my grandfather, Judge Selah B. Strong, from Dr. Benjamin F. Thompson. The first part was a general printed letter, telling that as Silas Wood's History was out of print, he had been urged to write a longer and fuller history.

He gave a list of some of the items he wished to include, early settlements, churches, schools, agriculture, industry, etc. and "the number of paupers and the mode and expense of their maintenance." Followed a personal note to my grandfather asking for information about the Strong's, the Brewsters, and the real facts about the Nicoll Patent.

A letter to Grandfather from Richard Smith of Smithtown, October 31st 1819, follows:

Dear Sir: Previously to the receipt of your favor of the 24th Inst, notice of the contemplated exhibition of the Suffolk Co. Agricultural Society had been sent to the Long Island Star, and Sag Harbor Eagle. Mr. Smith is worried about two things: the idea had been put forth so recently that there was little time to prepare and secondly it had been the worst season (probably since 1816.)

He adds that yet without a beginning, the object, laudable as it is, can never progress. "Therefore under these disadvantages we will do enough to make it appear well on paper afterwards." He

Kate Wheeler Strong

feels that this may draw to the farmers' attention the benefits of belonging to the Society. (I confess that "on paper" tickled me, they would see to it they got a decent writeup anyway!)

The next letter I drew from the bundle is from the earlier historian Silas Wood. He wrote from Washington on January 18th, 1827. It seems that the lighthouse keeper at



Historian and Congressman Silas Wood

Old Point had died. A Mr. Smith and a Mr. Jayne both wanted the job, and he had many letters from people, some urging one and some the other. All these he had turned over to the proper authority from whom he had learned that the keeper's Widow had also made application and had been promised the job until March. I wonder if the Jaynes got it. I know they had it years later when they used to let me climb the tower.

He mentions the two important issues before Congress: a treaty with the British, framing of which, he states, is puzzling the "wise

men." The other is the Bankrupt Bill which he thinks will go down to defeat as Virginia is against it.

In another letter, dated February 19th, 1827, Mr. Wood tells my grandfather of his plan to write a history of the early Towns on Long Island. At the time he was working on the early history of the Brewster Family, and had written to a Capt. Henry Brewster of Blooming Grove also to Brewsters in Danbury, Conn., and to a Brewster in New Hampshire.

Grandfather's uncle Joseph Strong had taken Mr. Wood to the family graveyard here on the Neck and he had copied some of the inscriptions. He asked grandfather to give as many facts as possible.

There are many more letters in that old bundle, but I think I have puzzled long enough over the faded writing for this time.

Monument Rescuers

The men who saved the Culluloo monument from destruction and had it restored and relocated were the late William S. Pettit and Smith N. Durland, who were assisted by others.

R.P.S.

Mr. Robert Jonas was right in thinking I'd find something to interest me in the Long Island Forum. Lawrence Conant, Garden City. (Note: Mr. Jonas and Mr. Conant are charter members of the Nassau Archeological Society Inc. Editor.)

Seven in One

At our Neighborhood Circle I showed my L. I. Forums and enclose seven subscriptions from members who saw it for the first time. Why don't you circularize it more?

(Mrs.) Marilyn Metz
East Meadow

Having enjoyed the Forum as a gift from the Union Savings Bank (anniversary souvenir) for the past year, I would like to continue as a subscriber. Helen C. Woodhull, Patchogue.

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Grandpa Did Some Beachcombing

I was much interested in the article by Clarence Russell Comes entitled Peconic's Old Mill in the June issue. It takes me back to the time when Uncle William Austin Haynes drove his bags of wheat to the mill when Gilbert Terry was the miller. I sat on the wheat for a ride to the mill and rode back with the newly ground flour, golden hue, sweet to the taste. There was also Cornell flour for our pancakes served with our own home-cured ham.

Gilbert Terry was the only resident at the Inlet then. He had a cute grey house with a big peach orchard behind it and kept a beautiful light brown horse, fat as meal from the mill could make her, for his daughter to drive. Later Artist Fitz built a cottage on the Inlet. Next the Dr. Wilsons built a summer place on the Sound bluff.

Where the Inlet flows into the Sound folks said there was quicksand, but I never heard of a drowning there. It was great to sit on the bridge and watch the mill-wheel revolve while meditating on your sins or, perhaps, your good qualities. The one thing that marred the summer day was the buzz of the mosquito, for there was no DDT then.

My grandfather Halsey Haynes' farm of 110 acres, partly wooded, ran to the Sound, and by the unwritten law of which Dr. Wood

Continued next page

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once wrote in the Forum, everything that came ashore fronting his farm belonged to Grandpa. And good Presbyterian though he was, Sunday or weekday he paced the beach for trophies. Thus on December 26, 1866, he saw the wreck of the steamer Commodore with 100 passengers and a variety of merchandise. A beautiful purple and gold carpet came ashore which later adorned the new home which Grandpa Halsey was building across the street.

The heavy front-door of this new domicile also came from the Commodore's remains, and also a very beautiful mahogany stair-railing. The door had a massive lock and key and we used to hide the key under the door-mat when we went to a neighbor's to play dominoes. The lock reminded me of the one Jack of the Beanstalk hid in.

Of a number of articles in the Haynes farmhouse it could be said: No one knows whence it came But I am sure 'twas of Commodore fame.

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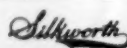
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Peconic Mill

Continued from page 164

gave up milling in 1902, and thereafter lived at Orient with his niece Mrs. Wilson L. Petty.

Gilbert Terry married Almeda V. Robinson. They had a daughter Ella who as Mrs. George Billard lived or lives at Cutchogue. Joshua U. Terry who ran the Mattituck mill for over twenty years, dying about 1900, was a brother of Gilbert Terry.

During his ownership of the Peconic mill, Gilbert Terry enlarged and improved it in the early 1870's by adding an extension on the north side and putting a windmill wheel atop a tower. The windmill much increased the efficiency of the plant as the tide-wheel would only operate during part of the rise and part of the fall of the tide, or some ten hours a day at most.

With the second set of stones installed, Terry ground over 200 bushels per day on numerous occasions. His largest grind was 300 bushels, when he worked a greater part of twenty-four hours.

Ernest M. Robinson, curator of the Suffolk County Historical Society at Riverhead and a nephew of Mrs. Gilbert Terry, recalls that while visiting the Terrys during the 1880's the miller told him "We are grinding a bushel a minute, using both tide and windmill." It is my notion that Robinson and I first met in the noisy mill in that long ago.

The first windmill head had the conventional four arms equipped with canvas sails which had to be renewed several times a year. The head was changed from the sail type to a new folding vane type after the Civil War. The latter type was built in sec-

tions and the outer part of the wheel could be folded to stand at right angles to the vane and thus acted as a brake against the remaining part of the wheel. This kind of wheel could weather an average gale.

The Inlet windmill was destroyed during a great storm on November 26 and 27, 1898. The wheel of the mill was blown to pieces and the wreckage left hanging. One by one the few remaining sticks dropped before the wind until the standard stood alone. On that occasion in 1898 a three-masted barge was blown upon the Sound shore just west of the mill.

By this time farmers had found it more profitable to grow potatoes and cauliflower than grain. Consequently the amount of work brought to the mill rapidly decreased until finally the water-wheel

Continued on next page

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Patchogue in 1812

From a Sanford, Florida, subscriber, Mrs. Harry C. Hetzel (formerly Miss Germaine Newins of Patchogue) comes a time-worn manuscript written by one Andrew Jackson Smith, entitled "Patchogue in 1812." The writer's name suggests that he was born not much later than 1828 when Andrew Jackson was elected President and possibly as early as a decade before as Jackson became a national hero in 1814 for his victory over the British at New Orleans.

Perhaps some Patchogue reader may know of Andrew Jackson Smith and when he lived. From his manuscript we learn that in 1812 there were but 75 inhabitants in Patchogue and only two roads or paths as they were called: Main street and Ocean avenue (the Lane). There were but five houses on the Lane, all on the east side, namely: Moses Wicks, Robert Mills, Jacob Baker, William Baker and, near the site of Carman avenue, Daniel Smith, grandfather of the writer.

About a quarter-mile from the bay a pair of bars crossed the Lane, and at Main street there was a gate. Between this gate and the bars, cattle roamed at large.

On the south side of Main street (now Montauk highway), between Ocean avenue and Swan Creek, was only one house, that of Squire Beale. On the north side, there was a small mill-house near the creek. To the west near Medford avenue stood the home of John Charllick, father of Oliver who became president of the LIRR. To the west lived Jesse Howell and west of that was the home of Phineas Rose, grandfather of Charles E. Rose.

Between the site of North Ocean avenue (then overgrown with pines) and "Patchogue pond" to the west were the Larned and Ackery homes. On the south side of Main street, west of Ocean avenue, lived Smith Hammond, village cobbler, near the creek, and Smith Conklin. "It was here," writes the narrator, "that the soldiers of 1812 stopped overnight while on their tramp from Brooklyn to Sag Harbor, where they had been ordered to prevent the British from landing." Michael Smith, Peter Smith, Jonathan Baker and several others were drafted to accompany the soldiers to Sag Harbor.

The writer goes on to say that the only other house thereabouts was that of Mr. Mulford, Patchogue's largest landowner, on the site of Losee's hotel. "Situated away from the settlement was the homestead of Joshua Smith, on what is now Bay avenue, about where Hiram Newins now lives."

Wrote Andrew Jackson Smith: "In 1808 the ocean broke through the beach at Smith's Point, injuring the oysters so that they all died. In 1814 the beach again closed. During 1816 the bay yielded an extra abundance of hard clams.

* * * They sold for six cents per 100." He added that oysters sold for 20 cents a bushel and that Capt. Samuel Tooker planted the first Virginia oysters in South Bay, at Howell's Point.

In 1812, wrote Mr. Smith, mail was carried on horseback once a week between Patchogue and New York, the ride being made in eight hours. He also told of three British soldiers deserting from a landing party at Sag Harbor, going to Patchogue and "lived the remainder of their days here. One of the fugitives, Devuril by name, or Devil as he was nicknamed, was finally the village pedagogue. The writer was one of his pupils."

Peconic Mill

Continued from page 172

was stopped, to turn no more. The gates were no longer used to hold the tide, the inlet began to fill with seaweed and the channel with mussel shoals. The neglected building gradually fell a prey to storms and decay.

On the wall of my library I have a framed picture of the

Goldsmith Inlet mill taken in its heyday beside a framed picture of the four yoke of oxen and cart taken in the Sage brickyard at Ashamomogue as they in July 1890 were about to join the parade in the celebration of Southold's 250th anniversary of its settlement. The oxen were driven by Peter Gaffaga with Mrs. Williamson Albertson and children in the cart. The following September I became the teacher at Quogue's little old district school.

I append a poem about the old mill which was written by the Rev. Daniel H. Overton, a native of Southold who married Carrie C. Terry, daughter of Jonathan Barnes Terry, one time president of the Southold Savings Bank, and Martha Jane (Corey) Terry, granddaughter of Major Gilbert Horton of local Revolutionary renown.

On Swan River in eastern



View of Patchogue in Brookhaven, Long Island.

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Patchogue there was also an old mill operated for many years by "Gil" Swezey of another old Long Island family. Edward H. Terry, brother of Gilbert Terry, the last miller at Peconic, had until about 1892 run the Mattituck mill in which he acquired an interest in 1858. After 1892 he not only ground grain at Patchogue by day but also ran a dynamo at night. He introduced that system of lighting the streets of the village. Friend Robinson, the curator at Riverhead, he who visited the Peconic mill as a boy when conducted by his uncle Gilbert Terry, also helped his great uncle Edward H. Terry at the Patchogue mill.

Joshua U. Terry, also mentioned above as having run the Mattituck mill for over two decades, was a son of Joshua Terry who was a son of Brewster Terry of Coram, an uncle of Gilbert Terry of the Peconic mill. These Terry millers all sprang from Walter Franklin Terry, an earlier miller born Oct. 12, 1804 who died March 24, 1871. Brewster Terry had a daughter who married Nathaniel O. Swezey, a prominent bayman at Patchogue who was born there Feb. 26, 1845 and died at the same place Jan. 18, 1879.

Nathaniel O. Swezey had a nephew who in the mid-80's was a boyhood pal of this

writer at Southold. Arthur Dwight Swezey was then a chore boy on the farm of S. Wells Phillips at Pine Neck while yours truly filled that humble position on the North Road farm of ex-Captain Eli Woodhull Howell. Dwight's father William Swezey and my father John Oakley Wood had been drowned at sea. Likely the O in the name of Dwight's grandfather stood for Oakley.

More than a half century later both Dwight and I returned and lived for a while as near neighbors in the heart of Southold. He died a few years ago at that village and this other erstwhile chore boy, now an octogenarian, as stated by the editor in the July Forum, "writes on."

The Old Tide Mill

The old tide mill is ruined now
Down by the surging Sound,
Where day by day for many years
The farmer's grain was ground.

The great wind wheel that o'er the
mill
Stretched out each mighty arm
And spread its wings to every
breeze,
And to the scene lent charm

Is ruined by the very wind
That swept it round and round,
And gave it power to turn the
stones
By which the grists were ground.

In one great storm of fearful force
This old windmill was blown
From off its place, and all its
wings
Upon the sands were strewn.

The old tide-mill is ruined now,
The miller's moved away,
The farmer's greater grist is
ground
By other power today.

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Nassau Landmark

Continued from page 166

ment the land was appor-
tioned so that each of the
proprietors received a so-
called "Home Lott" on or near
the highway known as The
Place, and equal areas of
woodland, pastureland, etc.,
throughout the remainder of
the tract.

According to the Patent
this entire area, as purchased
from the Indians, was said to
comprise some seventeen
hundred acres. It is interest-
ing to note, however, that a
list of the land-owners, made
in 1786, giving the amount of
property that each held, to-
taled three thousand six hun-
dred and seventy-eight acres.
Apparently the poor Indians
were not completely versed in
the technique of land survey-

ing and never knew what they
had bargained for.

The Indians that welcomed
Joseph Carpenter and his fol-
lowers to Mosquito Cove on
that spring day of 1668 have
long since departed for the
Happy Hunting Ground. If
they and the white pioneers
of that far-off era could re-
turn today it is doubtful if
they would find anything
familiar in the land that they
knew and loved nearly three
centuries ago.

Enormous factories have
sprung up on the land once
occupied by the Matinecock
wigwams and the blue ribbons
of smoke that rose from their
campfires have been replaced
by the be'ching smoke of
industry. Time and change
have erased almost every-
thing that belonged to their
world. Yet, here and there

we still find a few cherished
landmarks to remind us of
those days of long ago.

Historian's Comment

I would miss the Forum! It is
so interesting and helpful to me in
my D. A. R. historical work. Mrs.
W. Carl Crittenden, Freeport.
Note: Mrs. Crittenden is State
Historian of the D. A. R.

Ship's Identity

Ross & Pelletreau's L.I. History
stranded four-masted bark which
resembles the Galbraith, stranded
at Water Mill in July 1916. It is
probably not the same ship. Could
some reader identify it?

H. B. S., care L.I. Forum

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Long Island" by Silas Wood.
Printed by Alden Spooner, Brook-
lyn, in 1828.

For particulars write Long
Island Forum, Amityville.

I enjoy the Forum very much.
G. Burchard Smith, Freeport.
(Note: Mr. Smith, County At-
torney of Nassau County, is a
descendant of Smithtown's founder,
Richard Smith.)

Paumanok School

As a result of the very informa-
tive material which you gave me
some time ago including the refer-
ence to Walt Whitman's "Leaves
of Grass", our school board de-
cided to call the new school which
is being erected on Udall Road
(West Islip) "Paumanok School."

We all feel very much indebted
to you for an excellent solution of
a rather difficult problem and the
Board asked me to express its
appreciation and to thank you for
your kind help.

Livingston S. Jennings
Vice-President



Old Buildings at Glen Cove. Photo by Carl Kohler

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A gown for the grand occasions that come in with the fall season, this dress is a prize winner, designed and made by Edward Podosek, student at the Traphagen School of Fashion. He presented

his design in a recent style show given in the assembly hall at the school, 1680 Broadway (52nd Street), New York, and was the recipient of first prize awarded

for good taste and suitability of design by Fashion Digest Magazine.

The dress modeled here by a classmate, Doris Arden, depends on line and color for its glamour. Black nylon net over cafe au lait taffeta, and a garland of golden-brown-cast roses carry out the new season's concept of the bouffant gown with diminished petticoats. A black net stole provides optional cover-up of the decolletage, and pale beige suede gloves complement the colors of the gown. This young man deviated from the usual procedure of making a sketch first, as taught in the school's Art Department — instead he draped his design in muslin.

Mr. Podosek, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Podosek of 27 First Street, Syosset, Long Island, will return to Traphagen for the fall term to continue his studies in draping, design, clothing construction and patternmaking.

Other courses also opening at the Traphagen School the first week of October include Costume Design and Illustration, Styling, Life Drawing and Fashion Sketching, Interior Decoration and Window Display. Evening as well as regular full day classes are scheduled.

I saw my first Forum in a neighbor's house. Enclosed find check for two years, beginning, if you will, with January 1953. (Mrs.) P. O. Averill, Levittown.

My daughter and I enjoy the Forum and look forward to each issue. Mrs. F. S. Leslie, Cutchogue.

We enjoy the Forum very much. Edward F. Cook, East Hampton.

Nassau Archeological Society
Archeologists of Nassau County have organized and incorporated and have already launched a program of excavating with excellent results. The mailing address, where particulars may be obtained, is Box 1026 Sea Cliff.

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Shinnecock Canal

Continued from page 167

pronouncing the name Ellsworth. And I might add that Ellsworth Howland was still wearing the title with commendable dignity at the age of 89 when he passed the above information on to me.

Cooper at Sag Harbor

Sag Harbor has never laid claim to James Fenimore Cooper as a native son. The author of *The Leather Stocking Tales* belongs to Cooperstown, N. Y., and is buried there. He did, however, reside in Sag Harbor shortly after the War of 1812 and invested in at least one whaling voyage, that of the ship *Union* in 1810.

It has been said too that Cooper obtained material for his first book "Precaution" at Sag Harbor, and began his writing career there. In his novel "Sea Lions" Cooper evidently used his knowledge of Sag Harbor in describing a "small seaport town, where the whole industry of the place was connected with ships and shipping."

I recall that when the ice in Great South Bay broke up during a heavy storm on December 31, 1902, ice piled up along shore more than two dozen feet in height and much damage was done to boats and buildings.

J. R. James, Jamaica



Naphtha Launch on Shinnecock Canal, 1900

The Forum is such a splendid magazine I wish there was one like it in this section of the State. I have given all my copies to our local library. Mrs. Chester G. Allen, Wellsville, N. Y.

Fashion Articles

Those illustrated fashion articles about Traphagen pupils have been very favorably discussed at our club on several occasions. (Miss) Olga Danes, Levittown.

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In August 1882 Oscar Wilde, famous English author of his day, dined in Babylon at the old Argyle Hotel as the guest of Robert B. Roosevelt, uncle of T. R.

Another Attic Treasure

Long Island has not yet discovered the hiding place of Captain Kidd's treasure, but last year the attic of an old Mattituck house yielded up a box handsome enough to hold pieces of eight — indeed one of the papers found in it mentions "halfe pieces of eight." This document box, leather covered, domed lid, with hand wrought hinges, lock and studding nails, was old in 1793 when it was completely relined with a newspaper of that date.

It guarded a treasure of hundreds of even older papers of the Howell (Southold) family, dating from 1678 to 1875, covering the first five generations, of one branch of the Southold Howell family — Richard (1) circa 1650/1709, John (2) circa 1670/1734, Jonathan (3) 1720/1804, John (4) 1756/1837 and Sylvester (5) 1799/1875, and also Jonathan (4), died 1791, the son of Jonathan (3), and Jonathan (5) 1770/1832, the son of Jonathan (4). It is seldom indeed that family records are kept in one piece for five generations.

The box, now repaired, its cordovan covering polished to a lustre attainable only in old leather, now reposes in the Suffolk County Historical Society, Riverhead, to which it and its contents were presented by Chauncey Howell Downs, eighth generation descendant of Richard (1), to be known as the "Chauncey Perkins Howell Collection" in honor of his grandfather, the sixth of the Howell line. These records were found in the attic of the second homestead built on the farm deeded to Richard (1) by his father-in-law in 1676.

The house is on the North Road

Continued on back cover



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Another Attic Treasure

Continued from page 178

just west of the Southold-Riverhead dividing line, and it ties back to the original house because portions of the letter were incorporated into it when it was built. The house was occupied by Miss Elizabeth Howell (7), the last direct descendent of this branch until her death in 1951 after which the house and its 64 acres (a small part of the original which extended from Bay to Sound) were sold out of the family, who had possessed it for 275 years.

The writer, who is a direct descendent of Richard (1) through another son, had the interesting task of mending, sorting, transcribing and mounting these family papers and found them not only valuable to family genealogical research, but of great importance as a reference work, particularly because they cover such a variety of subjects that they present a mirror of the history, economics, and customs of the periods in which they were written, as full list will illustrate the wide range of interests covered: Family shopping lists, wills, deeds, receipts for expenses from false teeth and stays to tombstones, tax lists, indentures of boys to learn trades, slaves, settlement of estates, to personal letters which range from a dignified appeal of Richard (1) of Southold to Col. Howell of Southampton to send home Richard's (1) son Richard who was enjoying himself on the south side, to a school girl's letter about beaus and parties.

Also among the papers are many undated fragments obviously of the 1600's or early 1700's which merit further study, and a good knowledge of handwriting for accurate classification.

Truly, this is an impressive discovery, which can be made even more valuable by such further study and gifts of related family records.

Wilbur F. Howell
New York

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